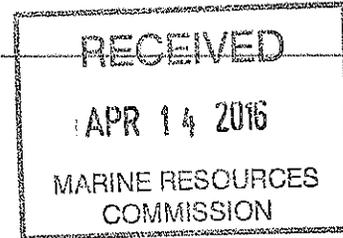


Atkins, Lou (MRC)

From: MRC - jpa Permits
Sent: Thursday, April 14, 2016 3:42 PM
To: Atkins, Lou (MRC)
Subject: FW: "JRWA"
Attachments: 001.tif; 002.bmp; 003.bmp; 004.bmp; 005.bmp

PROTEST

From: Owen, Randy (MRC)
Sent: Thursday, April 14, 2016 2:58 PM
To: MRC - jpa Permits
Subject: FW: "JRWA"



Protest 14-0343;

From: Pete G [mailto:minutemanpropertypreservation@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 14, 2016 12:21 PM
To: Owen, Randy (MRC)
Subject: Re: "JRWA"

PoF cultural inventory

On Mon, Apr 4, 2016 at 9:10 PM, Owen, Randy (MRC) <Randy.Owen@mrc.virginia.gov> wrote:

I will place this in the official record

From: Pete G [mailto:minutemanpropertypreservation@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 04, 2016 7:54 PM
To: Owen, Randy (MRC)
Subject: "JRWA"

Randy,

I am sure you are under pressure to push this thing through. Here is a partial list of the recent hyjinx these people have gone through trying to jam this bad deal through:

Point of Fork, Virginia Cultural Inventory

PROTEST

To see the Point of Fork confluence of two rivers from the James, the Rivanna, the Columbia Bridge, or the air, is to recognize that this location would always have attracted people. It is a defining geographical feature. Relics on site, significant architecture, and cultural connections evoke the confluence of people who settled here or passed through.

1. Archeological site dating from the Woodland Period, 1,200-1,600¹
2. Capital of the Monacan Nation, **Rassawek**, noted in the early 1600s as a large settlement at the Point of Fork. See #3, below.
3. Map and description by **Captain John Smith** (1580-1631), explorer, member of the London Company, president of the governing board of the Jamestown settlement. Christopher Newport, reporting on his exploration beyond Falls of the James, in 1608, referred to Point of Fork and **Rassawek**.
4. Colonial land patents from the territory.²
5. Thomas Jefferson's references to Point of Fork³
6. **Ross's Ferry**, established around 1775, crossed the James below Point of Fork, establishing Scottish entrepreneur **David Ross** (1739-1817) as a power in the territory. A provisional rope ferry spanned the same stretch of water after Hurricane Agnes destroyed the old Columbia Bridge in 1972.
7. Military dispatches by commanders of both sides during the American Revolution including Lafayette, Steuben, Simcoe, and Cornwallis.⁴
8. A State Tobacco Inspection station, within sight of the Point, increased commercial traffic on both the James and Rivanna Rivers during the early days of the Republic.
9. **David Ross**, owner of 5,709 acre Point of Fork tract, appointed Commercial Agent of Virginia by Governor Thomas Jefferson, December, 1780. ⁵

¹ L. Daniel Mouer, PhD., Virginia Department of Historic Resources Archeological Site Record 44FV0021

² G.L. Nolting papers, copies courtesy of Thomas Bannister, Department of Biology, University of Rochester

³ Jefferson Papers, Alderman Library, University of Virginia

⁴ See Indexes, Fluvanna County Historical Society Bulletins since 1967

⁵ FCHS Bulletin #25 Point of Fork Arsenal in 1781, pp 5,6

10. **Major military arsenal and soldiers' barracks**, active 1781-1800. Built on land David Ross provided on Point of Fork tract, the arsenal was raided in June, 1781 by Lt. Col. John Graves Simcoe and Queen's Rangers (American Loyalists.) Rebuilt and re-provisioned, Point of Fork Arsenal provided arms to General Lafayette's division, contributing in October, 1781, to the Franco-American victory at Yorktown.⁶
11. 1780s and 1790s: **Point of Fork Arsenal shipped arms** to Virginia's western frontier for use by Daniel Boone, Jack Jouett, and the chief of the Chickasaws, among others. 1794: Point of Fork Arsenal lent United States 3,000 muskets and bayonets to quell the Whiskey Rebellion in Pennsylvania and the Fallen Timbers Campaign in Ohio.⁷
12. **Town of Columbia incorporated in 1788** on land Ross contributed from his Point of Fork tract. This was Fluvanna County's only incorporated town until reversion in 2016.
13. **Fluvanna's longest serving post office**, established in Columbia in 1793, continues to serve same territories in Goochland, Cumberland, and Fluvanna Counties.
14. **19th and 20th century transportation innovations** See 15, 16, 25, 26 below.
15. The **Rivanna Navigation Company**, chartered in 1810, initiated slackwater navigation here. A generation later, the **James River and Kanawha Canal** from Richmond to Point of Fork was built. In 1851, a four and a half mile **Rivanna Connection** was completed to link the two canal systems.⁸
16. **Maps by David Couty**, chief engineer and master builder for the **Rivanna Navigation Company**, may be inspected in the office of the Fluvanna County Clerk.
17. **Virginia's only junction lock** still stands near northern bank of the Rivanna opposite the Point.
18. **Opulent Greek Revival brick country house**, built in the mid-1830s, architectural centerpiece of a 2,921-acre tract at the confluence bequeathed by William Galt, Sr., to James Galt (1805-1876), young, Scottish-born partner in the Richmond mercantile firm of Galt, Galt, and Allen. James Galt supervised construction of the house and outbuildings, and named his house and eventual plantation Point of Fork, after the original tract. Mary Colquhoun Galt and the Galt children moved out from Richmond in the fall of 1835.

⁶ Ibid, p 21

⁷ FCHS Bulletin #4, The Point of Fork Arsenal: Fluvanna's Revolutionary Landmark, pp 6 and 9, Richard Crouch, 1967

⁸ Rivanna Scenic River Atlas, 1992, William E. Trout, III, Virginia Canals & Navigation Society

The main house at Point of Fork and a meticulously restored adjacent 1830s dwelling, along with associated structures and surrounding acreage, has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1974.

19. **Records of William Galt**, (1801-1851) older brother of James, provide detailed descriptions of construction of the main house and outbuildings at his own plantation upstream. The main house there, Glen Arvon, built on William's share of the land he and James had inherited from their uncle, was a fraternal twin to the main house at Point of Fork.

William's records help to picture life at both places, the array of buildings at both, and the pioneering use of newly available farm equipment: McCormick's reaper, the threshing machine, and the hillside plow. Clearly, the two brothers were interested in soil amendment.

Both instituted crop rotation. Both farms used animal fertilizer, guano, calcium, potassium and "green manure" with legumes mixed in. Farm records attest to the success of these practices.⁹

20. **The Diary of James Galt** describes occupation of the area by General P. H. Sheridan and "six or seven thousand men of the 20th Pennsylvania Cavalry", March 10-12, 1865. Sheridan claimed the Point of Fork plantation house as his headquarters.¹⁰

When President Lincoln was shot, Galt wrote "It was a great misfortune to the South, as I believe he was more favorably inclined to us than any of the other politicians." James Galt served in the Virginia Senate during the early years of Reconstruction, 1865 to 1867.¹¹

21. **Terraces of Point of Fork gardens of the 19th century remain.** Beds and plantings described and illustrated in the early 1920s show vegetable beds and ornamentals interspersed in a formal rectangular pattern, framed by shrubbery in a strict arrangement, with a wide, softer outer frame of flowering fruit trees.¹²

22. Two farms, **Boonesborough** to the north, and the **Bialkowski place**, on the Rivanna, whose large, center-gabled frame house may be seen in the distance from the Point of Fork gateway, were eventually carved for Galt family connections from James Galt's old tract.

⁹ FCHS Bulletin #32 Diaries of William Galt of Glen Arvon

¹⁰ FCHS Bulletin ##13 & 14, 1971, p 21, from the diary of James Galt, owned by his descendants

¹¹ Virginia Cavalcade, Summer 1979, *From Orphans to Merchants, to Planters: The Galt Brothers, William and James*, G. Melvin Herndon

¹² *Historic Gardens of Virginia*, pp105-107, James Alston Cabell, James River Garden Club, copyright 1923

23. **Locavore tradition** Well into the twentieth century, the only foods bought off the farms at Point of Fork were coffee and sugar. Grain was brought by wagon to be ground into flour at a grist mill originally owned jointly by William and James Galt.
24. **Richmond and Allegheny Railroad**, later C&O, built along the canal towpath, reached Columbia on November 19, 1888. A C&O official lived for a while at Point of Fork and created a stop there, named "Rivanna." When he left, C&O moved the stop up the James to the farm of J. F. Payne, where it continued to be called "Rivanna", to general confusion.¹³
25. **Lydia O'Hare Nicholas** of Columbia was honored in 1951 with a medal from Pope Pius XII for her work as a missionary teacher. She had served for forty-seven years as teacher and director of a school in Columbia.

The railroad brought Lydia O'Hare from Ohio in 1904 to the Catholic Diocese of Virginia in Richmond. Young, Catholic and black, Miss O'Hare was resolved to establish a school for black children wherever it might be needed. The diocese directed her to Columbia, where they owned property. She was soon teaching forty children, up to the seventh grade.¹⁴

One was Emily, daughter of Mary Lou Field, the main cook at Point of Fork when Mr. and Mrs. James Alston Cabell owned the house. It was a long trek for a child: over the three-arched aquaduct across the Rivanna, along the River Road to Columbia, and up Washington Street to school. Eighty years later, Emily Field Buggs said Miss Lydia could teach anything: how to play the piano or the violin, accounting, drawing, engineering, how to thwack a baseball, beautiful penmanship...¹⁵

26. **Sister Katharine Drexel, S. B. S.**, born in 1858 to a philanthropic Philadelphia family, supported the Catholic school in Columbia and schools all across the country for African/American and native/American children. She was canonized in 2000.¹⁶ A shrine to Saint Katharine Drexel, outside St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Columbia, was dedicated in 2006.

27. **Dr. Russell Snead's office at Point of Fork**, established in 1956, was a novelty to many. Mary Lou Field, who by then had grandchildren raised at Point of Fork, went to Dr. Snead for the first visit to a doctor in her life.¹⁷

During Dr. Snead's tenure, the James River Medical Society met at Point of Fork, as did the Women's Auxiliary to the Student American Medical Association. The

¹³ Jaquelin A. Payne in conversation, Columbia, c. 1975

¹⁴ *St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Columbia, Virginia: the First Hundred Years*, published 1984

¹⁵ Becky Buggs, grand-daughter of Mary Lou Field, telephone interview, 2015

¹⁶ Nolting, loose papers

¹⁷ Interview, Becky Buggs

Sneads opened their house to garden clubs, history scholars, Revolutionary War re-enactors, photographers... all drawn by the allure of the old house and its grounds.¹⁸

28. **Columbia Boat Ramp**, maintained by Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, installed fifty yards downstream from the Point on the south shore of the James in 1975.
29. **The batteau "Columbia"**, launched from the public boat landing on the Cumberland side of the James, May 24, 1984. Dr. and Mrs. Snead came in a horse-drawn surrey driven by Willis Thomas and merged into a parade of High School band musicians, Masons, motorcycles, fire trucks, kids on bicycles with fluttering flags and Donald Meiller, D.V.M., in a boater hat at the wheel of his Model T Ford. Columbia's Mayor Kirk Johnson and Town Council members mingled in the crowd. Musician and batteau Captain Joe Ayers, Ann Ayers, Bill Trout, and the "Columbia" construction crew, who had labored heroically to make the "Columbia" river-worthy, drew cheers.
30. **The annual James River Batteau Festival**, inspired by the "Columbia's" maiden voyage to Richmond in 1984, threads together people in river towns across Virginia.
31. **21st century vineyards** established nearby in Goochland County—including "Rassawek Vineyard", on part of David Ross's original Point of Fork tract---model new agricultural and recreation possibilities for the Point of Fork terroir.
32. **Fish species caught from The Point, 2013-2015:**
 Small-mouthed Bass, Large-mouthed Bass, Black Crappie, White Crappie, Bluegill, Red-breast Sunfish, Pumpkinseed, Green Sunfish, Warmouth, Yellow Perch, Chain Pickerel, Flathead Catfish, Blue Catfish, Channel Catfish, White Catfish, Long-nosed Gar, Bowfin¹⁹

¹⁸ Interview, Barbara Snead Seay, 2016

¹⁹ List provided by Vincent Seay, 2016